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## SB 3092 RELATING TO PROTECTION OF BEACHLANDS

Statement for  
Committee on  
Planning and Environment  
Public Hearing - March 2, 1988

By  
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SB 3092 would amend chapter 171 of the Hawaii Revised Statutes by adding three new sections relating to the protection of beachlands and amending Section 171-1 to include a definition of "Beachlands". The intent of this bill is to provide effective safeguards preventing inappropriate disposition of public beachlands and to protect the peoples right to utilize and access public beaches.

We support intent of this bill as it establishes a wide definition of beachlands and relates public use and access to Hawaii's beaches as being in the highest interest of the people of Hawaii. As the bill states, Hawaii's beaches are a finite resource which should be preserved, reclaimed and restored for the enjoyment of all residents, visitors and future generations of Hawaii. This bill would effectively eliminate the sale, lease, exchange and other forms of disposition of public beachlands and their associate access by the BLNR, unless BLNR finds that such disposition will better serve the public interest. Furthermore, this bill requires a Concurrent Resolution and subsequent approval by majority vote of both the senate and house of representatives.

SB 2401, which will be heard tomorrow by the Senate committee on Tourism and Recreation is very similar to SB 3092; however, the language is more defined and precise. SB 2401 would permit approval of a Concurrent Resolution by a two-thirds vote of either the senate or the house of representatives, or the majority vote of both the senate and the house of representatives. In either case, the intent of the bill, to protect against the disposition of public beachlands, would be accomplished. We believe that the public's interest is served by both SB 3092 and SB 2401.